



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Western District of New York*

*Further inquiries: (716) 843-5814*

---

*138 Delaware Avenue*  
*Buffalo, New York 14202*

# PRESS RELEASE

November 21, 2003

**RE: UNITED STATES v. MARIO SANCHEZ**

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today the sentencing of Mario Sanchez, of Queens, New York, who was convicted of conspiracy to distribute heroin was sentenced to 157 months imprisonment, 5 years of supervised release, a \$100 special assessment penalty by Sr. United States District Judge John T. Elfvin.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Clare Kane, who handled the case, stated that the defendant had been convicted of conspiracy to distribute heroin for his involvement in traveling to Buffalo, New York to deliver 54 grams of heroin and 25 grams of cocaine powder to a co-conspirator, Jose Agosto, also of the New York City area. Sanchez left New York City on February 5, 2002 with heroin and cocaine powder in his possession to deliver to Agosto in Buffalo. Sanchez was arrested at the Exit 34 rest stop area off the N.Y.S. Thruway in Syracuse, New York. He admitted to DEA agents that the drugs were destined for the Buffalo, N.Y. area. His prior criminal record resulted in his facing a more severe sentence under the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.

The conviction was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency under the direction of Mark T. Peterson, Resident Agent in Charge.

\* \* \*